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ROANOKE, VA., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY :, 1892.

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THE DEMURRER SUSTAINED

In the Case of Mrs. Jefferson Davis Against Her Publishers

New York. Dec. 31,-[Special]-The superior court of this city has sustained the demurrer to the case of Mrs. Varina Jefferson Davis, widow of Jefferson Davis, in the action against Robert Belford and Edward Lange. The demurrer

was on the ground that she had im-properly joined the causes of action in her complaint. Mrs. Davis made a contract on March Ath, 1890, in which she agreed to write two volumes of memoirs of her hus-band, which Beiford was to publish for six years, she receiving twelve and a half per cent. on the retail price of the books sold. Mrs. Davis says that Lange agreed to give bond of \$10,000 that Bel-ford would keep the agreement.

The book was published last March, and three months afterward Belford made a statement showing \$4,001 was credited to her. She alleged that Bel-ford is now insolvent and he and Lange have tried to constrain her to assign the contract. She asked for \$1,001 as against Belford and \$10,000 from Lange as liquidated damages, a decree de-claring the contract broken and an in-junction to prevent Belford from assign-ing the contract to others.

I. O. O. F. OFFICERS

Mountain Dale Lodge Elects Officers for the Ensuing Year.

Mountain Dale Lodge, No. 49, I. O. O. F., elected the following officers at their regular weekly meeting last

night:

B. F. Childress, noble grand; J. W. Cook, vice-grand; H. C. Shelor, recording secretary; W. S. Harris, financial secretary; August Bening, treasurer; M. V. Webb, chaplain, and G. W. Chenault, A. Bening and W. S. Harris, trustee.

There was a very large attendance at

the lodge, among them several visitors from Norwich. Conn. Past Grand Bolden, of Lynchburg. ad-

THE NEW YEAR 1892 IS HERE.

Welcomed by the Ringing of Bells.

Fireworks by the Enthusiastic-Watch Services at the Y. M. C. A. and Trinity Tabernacle Both Events of an Interesting Nature-The Vigilants' New Year Ball Largely Attended.

"Ring out the old Ring in the new."

How many times were these lines repeated last night as the young and the old, the rich and the poor, watched the death of the old year 1891 and welcomed the new year 1892 with song and praise.

A new year. This is the day on which so many good resolutions are made, some to be kept, but the majority to be broken as Rip Van Wynkle broke

This is also the day on which the ladies, dressed in their best, receive their gentlemen friends and regale them with wine and cake until the gen-tlemen hardly know whether it is New Year's or the Fourth of July they are

Year's or the Fourth of July they are celebrating.

The ancient customs of New Year's calling will not be generally observed in Reancke. Most of the offices and some of the stores in the city will be closed part of the day, and some of them all day.

A large number of parties will be held in the evening and the clerks will return to their work to morrow and try to write 1892 instead of 1891, but for a few days the old habit will compel them to make the common mistake of dating letters with the wrong year.

The old year was "watched" out last night in various ways and at various places. Many of the churches held watch meetings, a number of the societies gave balls and parties were given at many private residences.

societies gave balls and parties were given at many private residences.

A few minutes before 12 o'clock the bell on the Vigilant Company's engine house commenced to ring, and an excited individual on the street, who had evidently forgotten the time, commenced to yell fire at the top of his voice. The chimes on the Presbyterian Church rang out the old and welcomed in the new year and a few fire-works were let off. A gang of men and boys secured a drum and some tin pans and paraded around the streets just at midnight.

Everything considered, Roanoke certainly did her share in making the new year feel at home.

AT THE Y. M. C. A.

The Ladies' Auxilliary of the Young Men's Christian Association, gave a reception and entertainment to the young men of the city last night, which were followed by an interesting watch service. Altogether, this was one of the most pleasant events in the history of the Association the Association

Early in the evening the hall was packed, and the young men and young ladies continued to arrive until after

The first part of the evening was taken up by the rendition of the following programme: PART I.

Guitar Solo...... 'Ne ster My God to Thee.'
Mr. Harry L. Tansill.

Every number was well received and there were a number of encores. After this part of the entertainment was over refreshments were served and a very pleasant hour spent in social conversa-tion. The following ladies were most promi-

nent in furnishing and serving the re-freshments and decorating the rooms: Mrs. J. G. Bringman, Mrs. A. J. Camp. Miss Lizzie McClanaban, Miss Joe Woltz, Mrs. S. S. Brooke, Mrs. B. O. Payne, Miss Georgie Barnett, Miss Nannie Trent, Miss and Mrs. Featherstone, Miss James and Miss Emmert, of Hagerstown, who is visiting Mrs. Dr. Flippo, and others.

At 11:15 p. m. promptly the company reassembled in the hall, where an exceedingly pleasant and profitable service was held, consisting of singing, prayers and appropriate state. vice was held, consisting of singing, prayers, and appropriate scripture read-ing. At 11:45 a beautiful New Year's hymn was recited by Miss Lucie Clare. The audience then engaged in silent prayer for several minutes. For the next five minutes all eyes were riveted upon the gilt "time ball," which was

arranged to drop at 12 o'clock.

Promptly on the second the ball fell and a concealed gong sonorously pealed the hour of 12. After a prayer by Mr. R. H. Hall the company adjourned and some time was spent in the exchange of New Year greetings. One by one they left the building, all pronouncing the entertainment a big success.

THE METHODIST WATCH SERVICE.

The watch night services held in Trinity Methodist Tabernacle last night were of an interesting character. It was announced in the beginning by Rev. Mr. Duffey, who conducted the meeting, that it would be strictly informal and that the old-time Methodist religion and customs would prevail.

The services were opened by the the singing of an old Methodist campmeeting hymn, after which, Rev. W. F. Hamner delivered an instructive lecture on pioneer Methodists and pioneer Methodism. He described in a vivid

Past Grand Bolden, of Lynohburg, addressed the lodge on the proposed odd Fellows' home for Virginia Odd Fellows and their widows and orphans.

Death of Bishop Adjat Crowther.

London, Dec. 31.—[Special]—Right Rev. Samuel Adjai Crowther, D. D., bishop of Niager territory, died to-day.

Methodism. He described in a vivid manner the sufferings and hardships of those who laid the foundation of the church in America. It was an able effort and was well received.

After the address there was a general experience meeting and short talks by the members and brethren of all the bishop of Niager territory, died to-day.

harmony and brotherly love characterized the meeting thoroughout. The services were concluded by administering the Holy Sacrament at the advent of the new year, Rev. W. T. Schooley officiating officiating.

A NEW YEAR BALL.

The annual New Year's ball given by the Vigilant Fire Company at their house last night was a great success. All of the apparatus was moved out and a clear floor was used for dancing. The ceiling was festooned very prettily with small flags and evergreens, and made a very beautiful sight.

Music was furnished by the Machine Works Orchestra, and the figures were called off by Mr. Espenlaub.

The ball was opened with a grand march, which was led by Mr. Ed. Welsh and Miss Alma Martin, and was participated in by twenty-eight couples.

The attendance was very large throughout the evening, and dancing was kept up until a late hour,

SUNDAY SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENTS. Old Santa Claus Visits the First Presbyter

The Sunday-school of the First Presbyterian Church held its Christmas festival last night in its Sunday-school room. The services were opened by devotional exercises conducted by Assistant Superintendent J.G. Kuykendall. The school joined in singing some music selected for the occasion. Then came an interesting and instructive address delivered by T. S. Van Horn.

Messrs. Tom Teaford and Daniel Amens entertained the audience for some time with some excellent barjo music. Mr. Johnson, the superintend-ent, announced to the children that, alent, announced to the children that, although it was several days after Christmas, Santa Claus had agreed to visit the school and distribute the presents. Mr. Johnson then called and asked if Santa Claus was there, and a smothered voice from behind a curtain, which was marked to represent a brick house, replied "I am." A step-ladder was put in place and Santa Claus appeared climbing over the wall. He was greeted with shouts and laughter by the children, and after he had talked to and shaken hands with many of them proceeded to give out the confectioneries to each member of the school.

One feature of this service was the

each member of the school.

One feature of this service was the presentation of offerings by the children and the members of the school for the Thornwell Orphanage, situated at Clinton, S. C. The necessity of giving as well as receiving has been forcibly impressed on the members of the school by their teachers and pastor and neat contributions of potatoes and groceries of every description were donated by the school, all of which will to-day be shipped to the orphanage, with the name of the donor attached to each name of the donor astached to each parcel.

parcel.

Several suits of clothes were also contributed for the benefit of the students of the Tuscaloosa Institute, which is supported by the Presbyterian Church, for the training of colored ministers of that denomination.

After singing some appropriate songs the averages were beautiful a close.

the exercises were brought to a close. THE RUSEBUD SOCIETY

of the St. James M. E. Church South, give a pieasant musicale and literary entertainment last evening at the St. James Church on Fourth avenue. A well-arranged programme, consisting of recitations and dialogues, was creditably carried out and all who attended declared it one of the most extended declared it one of the most enjoyable occasions of the season.

TWO NEFARIOUS PLOTS

To Blow Up the Irish Viceroy's Castle and the French Chamber of Deputies.

DUBLIN, Dec. 31 .- [Special]-A decided sensation was caused in this city to-day by an ill-defined rumor that "the physical force" party had resumed operations here and that their first attempt had been made against Dublin Castle, the official residence of earl of Zetland, Viceroy of Ireland.

Out of a great deal of excited rumor and gossip afloat these facts are sifted. Some alterations are in progress in the castle and a considerable number of workmen are employed. To-day while the work was progressing a tremendous explosion occurred in the cellar under the room in which the privy council

meets.

Another story intervened between the cellar and council chamber. This intervening floor was shattered and much damage was done to the council chamber.

The council was to have, met to day

and the surmise is that a plot existed to blow up the council, but the explosive went off prematurely. Nobody was hurt so far as reported. Investigations show that the explo-

sion was not caused by escaping gas rny other accidental circum-tance, but that it was the work of design and that some very powerful agent was used.

some very powerful agent was used.

Great reticence is observed by the castle authorities and employes, and consternation prevailed among them. Two floors above the cellar were blown to pieces, heavy beams in some places being torn into small pieces. The furniture in the office beneath the privy council chamber was completely destroyed. stroyed.

Paris, Dec. 31.—[Special]—To-day the people of Paris were startled by a rumor that an extensive plot had been discovered by a Russian colony, having for its object the destruction of the building in which the chamber of deputies meet, and also the buildings occupied by the Russian embassy. The conspirators, it was said, had arranged to blow up these buildings with dynamiter

The rumor must have had some basis in the truth, for many of the refugee Russians have been taken into custody. A number of houses occupied by suspects have been searched by the police, and a quantity of criminating documents found.

GROWING TROUBLE IN MEXICO.

The Murder of General Garcia Confirmed.

His Troops Have Joined Garza, the In surgent Leader-Rumors of an En gagement With United States Soldiers. The Mexican Government Alarmed at the Situation-Deep Concern in Washington.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 31 .- [Special]-Times Democrat's San Antonio special says: In the district of the Garza disturbance there are now some two hundred United States troops and thirteen Texas rangers. They are scattered, but will be concentrated with the force of Captain Burke. When massed, the troops will attack Garza, who is said to be encamped near Lopena with two-hundred and fifty men. The locality is far from a telegraph station and the engagement may have taken place yesterday. The only news received by Gen. Stanley was to the foregoing effect, and came from the officer commanding Fort Ringgold during Burke's absence

The murder of General Lorenzo Gar-cia by his troops and their flight into Texas to join Garza has been confirmed. The killing occurred at Mier. The number of the desertors is not known.

LATER-Brigadier-General Stanley feels certain that the action took place yesterday between Garza's men and the

GARZA'S LARGE FORCE.

LAREDO, Tex., Dec. 31.—[Special]—An interview with a United States maran interview with a United States marshal just in from Garzu's field of operations shows that there is certainly a large force with Garza, and that in one of Garza's attachments, which Captain Hardie followed, there were no; less than three hundred men.

At a tunn where they had taken a

At a camp where they had taken a single meal were found the remains of eight beeves which had been slaughtered, also three camp fires. The traits bore proof of a company of several hundred were

bore proof of a company of several hundred men.
Captain Hardie followed close on the trail of these men until they crossed the river. The country has a dense growth of chapparel which it is almost impossible for a horse to penetrate, and the country is broken by deep arroyos, which compel the troops to dismount and pick their way carefully and with great difficulty.
Captain Hardie has spies and scouts stationed in various directions and is doing everything possible under the circumstances. Considering the impassable nature of the country and that there are only about 300 United States troops in the field, while if reports be true, Garza's band must not fall short of 900 men. Yesterday supply wagons heavily laden started down the river with supplies for the troops. There are rumors of a battle between Garza and the Mexican troops, but inquiry across the river in New Larcdo failed to confirm them.

THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT ALARMED.

MONTEREY, Mex., Dec. 31.—[Special]
—News was received here late last
night that General Lorenzo Garcia, in
command of the troops in the field in
the northern part of Mexico, with headquarters at Mier, had been murdered by
his command, and that the entire force,
numbering search banded. numbering several hundred men under his immediate command, had gone over to the side of the revolutionists, cross-

to the side of the revolutionists, crossing over into Texas in a body at a point between Roma and Carrizo.

Private soldiers in the Mexican army are neary all convicted criminals who, instead of being given a term in prison, are sent here to serve with the military and they are desperate characters and are nearly all secret sympathizers of the revolutionary movement. Gea. Garcia revolutionary movement. Gea, Garcia was one of the most prominent and efficient officers in the Mexican army omcers in the Mexican army and his death at this time is a serious

blow to the government.

Governor Reies has been in constant telegraphic communication with President Diaz all day, but the nature of the dispatches is not known. Gov. Reies, of State of Nueva Leon, and the military authorities here are much disturbed over the situation on the frontier. The movement of troops through here from the lower part of the Republic during the past five days has been very great, and the transportation facilities of Mexican National road have been insuf-ficient to exercise the second ficient to accommodate the heavy de mand made upon it by the government. The garrison here has rushed all of its available troops to Nueva Laredo, from which place they are distributed along the right bank of the Rio Grande.

DEEP CONCERN IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.-[Special]-Officials of the War Department are watching the situation on the Rio Grande with deep concern, but are without news from General Stanley this morning. They morning. They are apprehensive that Captain Bourke's force may be very much outnumbered by the revolution-ists, but they feel confident that the officer will conduct himself with all

officer will conduct himself with all necessary prudence and that he will scon be reinforced.

Minister Romero this morning said that he had heard nothing except from the newspapers about the assassination of General Garcia and the desertion of his troops to the revolutionists. He did not credit the story, but the army officers, who are acquainted with the character of Mexican soldiers on the frontier, are more inclined to accept it as probable. THE SITUATION IN WASHINGTON

Washington, Dec. 31.—[Special]—Within the past two days 45,000 pounds of brown powder and 22,000 pounds of gun cotton have been forwarded from the East to san Francisco. The brown the East to San Francisco. The brown powder is intended for naval great guns and gun cotton for shells and torpedoes. Beyond these facts there is nothing to be learned at the Departments this morning concerning war preparations.

A \$500,000 FIRE.

The Standard Oil Company's Barrel Fac tory Burned.

BAYONNE, N. J , Dec. 31.-[Special]-The great barrel works of the Standard Oil Company at Constable Hock are burned down.

The fire started at 9:30 last night in the heading room of the barrel works. It was discovered by August Chors, night watchman. He said it seemed to spring up in all directions. The entire Bayonne fire department, under Chief Engineer Berry, quickly responded to the alarm sent in. There were four steamers and three book and ladder companies on hand in a short time. Constable Hook is not the most acces-

companies on hand in a short time.
Constable Hook is not the most accessible place in the world, especially at night, but the firemen made good time to the scene of the conflagation.

Though little time was lost in summoning police and firemen, when they arrived it looked as if the whole barrel factory was enveloped in flames. The barrel factory was entirely destroyed.

The building was filled with barrels, both completed and unfinished, there being hundreds of thousands of them. There were also great stacks of cut lumber ready to be converted into barrels. It is estimated that there were between one and two million barrel heads in the building, and from ton to fiteen million barrel staves.

The structure was about 350 feet long, 200 feet wide and three stories high. Over 500 men, including the police and fireman, fought the flames, but soon found out that they could not control them. The building stood in an enclosure of sabout six acres. Great stacks of lumber were piled all about. These caught fire and burned flercely and soon there were five acres of flames lighting up the surrounding country.

Next to the barrel factory was the chemical works, and all efforts were directed toward saving them. After a long and hard fight, during which the flemen worked in constant peril of their lives, as a single spark falling among the chemicals would have been enough to have caused an explosion which would have blown them all into eternity, their efforts were successful and the chemical works were saved.

which would have blown them all into eternity, their efforts were successful and the chemical works were saved.

The machinery in the burned building is the most complete. There was a fine Corliss engine worth \$50,000 and forty-eight other pieces of machinery, some of them having been put in September last. This was very valuable, \$150,000 being hardly sufficient to pay for it. The company carries its own insurance. insurance.

After 1 o'clock the great danger was

After 1 octook the great danger was over, and little by little the firemen began to conquer the flames until at 4 o'clock the fire was under control.

Now that the fire is out and officials of the Standard Oil Company have had time to look about them and foot up the less the adjulial estimate of \$1,000 000. loss, the original estimate of \$1,000,000 and over has been cut down to \$5,0,000 as the maximum.

TOBACCO STATISTICS.

The Weed Produced in Forty-two States and Territories.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 .-- [Special] -- The census bureau to-day issued a bulletin giving statistics of tobacco production in the United States for the year 1889 by counties, and also for the convenience of comparison, those for the years of 1879, 1869 and 1859, as they appear in the reports of the ten, ninth and eighth censuses. The report for 1889 is based upon the

returns of census enumerators, supplemented by an extensive correspondence mented by an extensive correspondence and by investigations in the field. To-bacco is produced to a greater or less extent, says the bulletin, in forty-two States and Territories, the only non-producing States being Idaho, Nevada, Rhode Island and Wyoming, and the not-producing Territories, Oklahoma and Washington.

The entire crop of the country amounted in 1889 to 488,255,896 pounds.

amounted in 1889 to 488,255,896 pounds, the number of planters being 205,862 and the area devoted te tobacco culture, and the area devoted te tobacco culture, exclusive of counties cultivating less than one acre, 692,990 acres. The area and cultivation was, however, very unequally distributed, Kentucky having 39.6% per cent. of the total aereage and producing 45.44 per cent. of the entire crop, and the six States next in the rank of production 50.16 per cent. and 42.49 per cent. of the crop, while twenty States and Territories having the smallest had less than 900 acres in tobacco and yielded an aggregate of tobacco and yielded an aggregate of only 451,025 pounds, or less than 1 per cent. of the entire crop.

The average production per acre of the entire country was 705 pounds, ranging among the seed leaf States producing 5,000,000 pounds or upwards from 854 pounds per acre in Ohio to 1,403 pounds per acre in Connecticut, and in the more important States in which the manufacturing and export varieties predominate from 375 pounds per acre in North Carolina to 830 pounds per acre

planter was 3.37 acres and the average production of each planter 2,372 pounds. The total value of the crop to producers, estimated on the basis of actual sales, was \$35,844,449, an average of 7.1 cents.

The average area cultivated by each

was \$35,844,440, an average of 7.1 cents per pound, or \$50.28 per acre. The average price per pound received by the producer in the States, producing 5,000,000 pounds or upward, ranged from 4.5 cents in Missouri and 4.7 cents in Maryland to 12.8 cents in Connecticut and 14.2 cents in North Carolina. The product of Louisiana averaged 25.2 cents per pound to the producer.

per pound to the producer.

Although the total reported the acroage in tobacco shows an increase of 8.48 per cent. upon that in 1879, there is a decrease of 91 in the number of is a decrease of 91 in the number of tobacco-producing counties, there being now only 1.674, as compared with 1,765 in 1879. It is likewise worthy of note that the proportion borne by the crops of Kentucky to the entire production of the country is steadily increasing, having advanced from 24.90 per cent. in 1859 and 36.20 per cent. in 1879 to 45.44 per cent. In 1889.

MOONSHINER DEMANDS MONEY.

H. B. Oliver Shot in His Office at Radford.

In Conversation With Officer Fisher at the Commercial House When Moonshiner Shelton Enters With Drawn Revolvers, Demands Money and Shoots. The Moonshiner Escapes With a Load of Lend-Oliver's Wound May be Ser-

ROANOKE TIMES BUREAU, RADFORD, VA., Dec. 31.

The Commercial House was the scene of a sensational shooting affair this evening. The result is that H. B. Oliver, the new proprietor of the Commercial House, is suffering from a severe would in the breast that may prove fatal and his assailant, a moonshiner named Shelton, has escaped with

sniner named Shelton, has escaped with a considerable load of lead.

About 7 o'clock while Mr. Oliver and Officer Fisher were in the private office of the Commercial House engaged in conversation a knock was heard at the door. Mr. Oliver invited the man in, and when the door opened Moonshiner Shelton walked in with a drawn revolver in each hand. Before either Oliver or Fisher had time to move the man demanded money for whiskey alleged to have been purchased by Oliver, and in less time than it takes to tell it began firing without giving Oliver time to answer his demand.

Officer Fisher immediately drew his revolver and returned the fire and the moonshiner dropped to the floor.

The rapid firing attracted a crowd, and for a while there was so much excitement that no one know what had happened. In the rush the man fell into the hands of friends and escaped.

When the smoke of the battle had cleared and the excitement abated it was found that Oliver had sustained a serious wound. A ball from Shelton's pistol struck him in the left side just below the heart. At this writing the physician in attendance has not lecated the ball, and it is thought it struck a rib and glanued.

In the molec that immediately followed the sheoting, Oliver swore vena considerable load of lead.

In the moleo that immediately fol-lowed the shooting, Oliver swore ven-geance on his assailant and, might have

geance on his assailant and might have finished him, but for the intervention of the crowd.

It is said that Shelton was seen just outside the hotel a few minutes after the shooting, with a gash on the top of his head and his head and face covered with blood. Some think that the bullet entered his mouth and came out at the back of his head.

back of his head. back of his head.

The feeling against Shelton was very bitter and the friends of Oliver would not allow a physician to go to him. Some one in the growd asked him what he was doing there and told him to skip, which he did with a great deal of haste.

Oliver came here a few months ago from Roanoke, where he was in the liquor business for some time.

CHILI WANTS PEACE.

False Reports Alleged to be the Cause of the Trouble.

London, Dec. 31 .- [Special] -- A Santiago de Chili correspondent of the Times to-day affirms, on what he declares to be the highest authority, that Chili would not feel humiliated in helping, to the utmost of her power, to terminate peacefully and in a manner honorable to both herself and the United States the conflict which but for the lengthy and secret form of criminal procedure followed in Chili, which has allowed of constant false reports, hostile to good understanding to be propagated abroad, could never have attained such avaggerated proparties.

such exaggerated proportions.

The correspondent says it is evident that there are fire brands who are anxious for the inauguration of war, which would be disastrous to the best interest

of both countries concerned. Sociable Given by Miss Mahoney. A sociable was given by Miss Blanch Mahoney at her residence on Ninth avenue s w., Wednesday night, which was greatly enjoyed by the participants. Suppor was served during the evening and the party did not break up until a late hour. The following were present: The Misses Maggie Hays, Eliza Bernard. Lillie Davidson, Nana Stover, Mary Stover, Bettie Davidson, Sallie Camden, Edith Deacon, Lizzie Webber, Mr. and Mrs. Ways, and Messrs. Wm. Camdon, Russell Camdon, John T. Bernard, J. F. Boon, Wayland, Nash, Oyler, Jamison, Miller and Hernden.

Dr. Newton Out of Danger. NEW YORK, Dec. 31 .- [Special]-Rev. Dr. E. Heber Newton is pronounced out of danger by his physician. A consultation was held in the house this morning by the doctors, after which it was announced that Newton is on the way to recovery.

A Failure in Augusta

Augusta, Ga., Dec. 31 .- [Special]-The D. C. Flynn Company was placed in the hands of a receiver to-day. The assets are between \$30,000 and \$35,000; liabilities, \$28,000; preferred creditors.

A Coming Marriage.

Cards are out for the marriage of Miss Cora Sublett, daughter of Thomas G. Sullett, Esq., of Cave Springs, to Mr. John M. Airheart, of Roanoke city, to take place at Baptist Church, Cave Spring, at 4 p. m. January 13.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 .- [Special]-Secretary of War Elniks assumed charge of his department to-day.

Secretary Elkins in Harness.

The Weather.

Forecast for Virginia: Increasing cloudliness with rain; warmer; south winis increasing with force.